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CZECHOSLOVAK PLAN FULFILLMENT IN 1953

[Comment: This report presents information on 1953 Czechoslovak plan fulfillment, issued by the Czechoslovak State Statistical Office (Statni Urad Statisticky) and published in the 31 January 1954 issue of Svobodne Slovo.]

I. FULFILLMENT OF THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION PLAN

The annual gross industrial production plan was fulfilled 99 percent. Fulfillment by individual ministries was as follows:

<u>Ministry</u>	<u>Fulfillment(%)</u>
Fuel and Power	97
Fuel alone	90
Metallurgy and Ore Mines	99.7
Chemical	102
Engineering	98
Construction	100
Timber and Lumber Industry	101
Light Industry	102
Food Industry	96
<u>Industrial Enterprises of the Ministries</u>	<u>Fulfillment (%)</u>
Transport	104
Crop Purchase	107
Local Economy	104
Culture	103
Health	106
Other ministries and central organizations	104
Artisan cooperatives	106

The planned production goals for 1953 were overfulfilled for the following items: crude petroleum, natural gas, motor oil, gasoline [or diesel?] mixed fuels; lead, electrolytic copper, medium and fine profile steel, high-grade sheet steel, steel wire, portable steam engines, alternate-current electric motors, incandescent lamps, power cables, turret lathes, automatic and semiautomatic lathes, coal-cutting machines, tractor drawn binders, tractors, locomotives for main lines, freight cars, heavy tooth-harrows, steam baths for fodder, polyvinyl chloride, synthetic fertilizers such as superphosphate and nitrates, coal-tar derivatives, oil paint, acetic acid, viscose and sillon fibers, penicillin, truck tires, automobile tool repair kits, paper, flat glass, bottles, refined alcohol, etc.

Other products produced over and above planned quantities were fresh meat (ready for consumer), smoked meat, canned meat, fish products, edible fats, edible oils, wheat and rye flour, bread, candy exclusive of chocolates, fresh frozen fruit, preserves, dried fruit, canned vegetables, wine grapes, silk, linen, half-linen, cotton and woolen textiles, a new type of damask, lingerie and dress-type flannel, checked shirtings, knitted underwear, leather footwear, rubber footwear, sneakers, women's overshoes with wedge heels, ladies' spats, children's and girls' rubbers, foam-rubber inner soles, imitation linoleum, oilcloth, tires and inner tubes, rubber toys, cigarette paper and cigarette molds, writing paper, cellophane, safety pins, flashlight batteries, tin stoves, and radio receivers.

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However, the plan was unfulfilled in other categories. The Ministry of Fuels and Power failed to complete the hard-coal production plan or the power production plan; the Ministry of Metallurgy and Ore Mines failed in the iron ore, manganese ore, and coke and rolled products production plans. The Ministry of Engineering failed in the production of replacement goods and various items needed for wholesale production. The Ministry of Construction did not produce enough cement, bricks, and lime; the Ministry of Forests and Timber Industry did not complete the furniture production plan; and the Ministry of Light Industry failed in the production of outer clothing, useful porcelain, and ceramics.

II. INCREASE IN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

Compared with 1952, gross production in 1953 increased 10 percent. In Slovakia alone the increase was 14 percent.

The following shows 1953 plan fulfillment for various products, compared with 1952.

<u>Product</u>	<u>1953, in % Compared With 1952</u>
Electricity	106
Illuminating gas	111
Brown coal	103
Coke	106
Crude petroleum	108
Iron ore	108
Manganese ore	104
Crude iron	120
Crude steel	116
Ferroc alloys	114
Rolling-mill products	115
Tin sheets	120
Galvanized sheets	121
Files	120
Steam boilers	136
Center lathes	146
Vertical lathes	2.6 times
Turret lathes	184
Automatic and semiautomatic lathes	141
Planing mill machines	122
Milling machine	116
Freight cars	133
Hoisting machinery	3.5 times
Mine loaders	157
Petroleum drills	3.4 times
Ball bearings	112
Polyvinyl chloride	121
Superphosphate	117
Milled phosphate	2.3 times
Calcium cyanamide	120
Copper sulfate	3.3 times
Silon silk	177
Ribbed silk	194
Elastic conveyer belts	114
Penicillin	2.4 times
Cement	105
Cellulose, unbleached	104
Cellulose, particularly refined	117
Paper	103

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<u>Food Products and Consumer Goods</u>	<u>1953, in %, Compared With 1952</u>
Fresh meat	110
Smoked meat	115
Fish products	114
Edible fats	116
Edible oil	179
Refined sugar	108
Wheat flour	105
Rye flour	105
Bread	112
Cookies (nonperishable)	112
Powdered cocoa	169
Canned vegetables	151
Frozen fruit	140
Dried fruit	11 times
Potato starch	138
Soap	104
Ladies' woven underwear	128
Sheets, pillowcases	143
Silken stockings	2.3 times
Woolen hosiery	130
Woolen coats, cloaks, and capes	110
Ladies' suits	164
Cotton work clothes	119
Rubber work shoes	120
Men's leather dress shoes	153
Children's leather footwear	119
Light dress shoes	174
Sport shoes	147
Lubricating grease	130
Bicycle tires	149
Bicycle inner tubes	125
Tool kits for bicycles	132
Oilcloth	114
Cellophane	165
Rings for canning jars	125
Rubber toys	3 times
Imitation linoleum	113
Stationery	132
Paper napkins	115
Electric vacuum cleaners	2.5 times
Home electric refrigerators	154
Porcelain plates (deep)	123
Porcelain plates (shallow)	120

In 1953 the food industry placed 18 new varieties of meat products on the market, as well as new types of preserved foods and a wider assortment of cheeses, cookies, biscuits, bread, frozen fruit, and other items.

Fifteen new types of furniture are being manufactured. New types of baking ovens, sewing machines, electric washing machines and baby buggies are being produced. Production of children's thermos bottles, new varieties of stockings, coats, movie film, and numerous small items has begun.

Some enterprises failed to fulfill planned tasks as to quality and variety, and there was a great number of rejects in their production. This was particularly true of enterprises in the Ministry of Metallurgy and Ore Mines, and in the Ministry of Engineering.

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The use of machinery in industry has improved. Better use of combines was made in enterprises of the Ministry of Fuel and Power. Drilling for crude petroleum was accelerated 5 percent in 1953 compared with 1952.

However, in some other enterprises industrial equipment is not fully utilized. The Ministry of Engineering is particularly lacking in proper use of certain types of machinery, particularly universal, horizontal cutters, face and specialized lathes, revolving drills, etc.

III. NEW TECHNOLOGY

With technical assistance from the USSR, Czechoslovakia in the past 5 years began to manufacture machines and equipment not produced in the country prior thereto. They include a mine combine for shallow seams, boring machines [mobile], suction dredges of high capacity, centerless grinders, semiautomatic duplicating lathes, automatic and semiautomatic welding machines, 15 new types of metal working machines, new types of induction motors, additional types of roller bearings, high efficiency gas cleansing equipment, a turbogenerator for an electric train, new turbo pumps for combustion engines, the first Czechoslovak high-voltage switch with automatic cut-in, gas carburization furnace, electric hand trowel for plasterers, additional series of five-bottom plows, new universal set of dentist's equipment, X-ray cables, a new type of calculating machine, and others.

The continuing technical development included increased mechanization of the heaviest work in the mines, especially in loading, hauling, and surface transportation to dressing plants.

Geological research has widened the store of basic raw materials. Enterprises in coal research projects exceeded the plan for test borings by 6 percent, or double that of 1952.

IV. AGRICULTURE

Agricultural development was slower than industrial. However, mechanization of field work has increased. In 1953, 2,203 tractors, 450 grain combines, almost 400 tractor-drawn mowers, 1,100 tractor-drawn grain drills, 3,300 tractor-drawn plows, 2,000 potato planters, 2,000 manure and fertilizer spreaders, and 1,400 beet choppers were delivered to agricultural sectors.

Crop purchase prices of certain important commodities were increased, and additional investment and production credits were extended to JZDs (Jednotne Zemedelske Druzstva, Unified Agricultural Cooperatives) and private farmers.

Although the amount of land seeded in 1953 did not differ greatly from the acreage sown in 1952, the amount of land devoted to feed crops was increased, as well as certain crops which were introduced in areas which had never grown them before.

The state inspection of harvests showed that per-hectare yields were greater in 1953 than in 1952, especially for barley, corn, and all oleaginous plants with the exception of rape, legumes, root crops, fiber plants, and fodder plants.

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The highest per-hectare yields were achieved by JZDs and state farms. The total grain crop produced in 1953 was higher than in 1952, especially for rye, barley, and corn. The sugar-beet crop was 17 percent higher, feed root crops 14 percent, legumes 43 percent, and fiber plants 32 percent. The harvest of hops, wine grapes, and tobacco was greater than in 1952. The fruit and vegetable crop was unusually high, considerably above average.

The proportion of agricultural products raised by the socialist sector of the economy increased as follows: grains from 30 percent of the total in 1952 to 51 percent in 1953; slaughter animals from 34 to 46 percent (of which hogs for slaughter increased from 42 to 57 percent); milk from 24 to 43 percent.

The amount of agricultural work performed by the MTS was 55 percent greater in 1953 than in 1952. Grain combines harvested grains from 101,000 hectares. Because of better maintenance, tractor breakdowns decreased perceptibly.

Results in animal husbandry were unsatisfactory, partially because of insufficient provision of feed stocks. In comparison with 1952, only sheep and poultry numbers were increased. The planned average weights of slaughter animals and milk production were not attained. Egg production was up 19 percent. The number of stock fish increased substantially.

JZDs of type III and IV grew from 5,784 at the end of 1952 to 6,782 at the end of 1953.

In comparison with the nation-wide average, state farms had higher grain productivity per hectare, as well as higher production of milk and eggs.

Planned reforestation work was fulfilled 106 percent, with 94,000 hectares being reforested. Production of timber products was fulfilled 101 percent; delivery of timber products 99 percent.

V. TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

Railroad freight transport was 8 percent higher in 1953 than in 1952. The average weight of a freight train increased 10 percent. However, some planned tasks were not completed because of irregularity and lack of uniformity in train movements, loading and unloading, freight-car damage, and hold-over of cars for repairs.

The same results were obtained in passenger traffic as in 1952. New passenger cars and autobuses were installed. A new 116-kilometer-long track from Brno to Havluckuv Brod was put in operation, and 24 kilometers of the Zilina -- Martin-Vrutky track was electrified. Installation of automatic safety equipment was begun, and several high-performance locomotives were put in operation.

Trucks of the CSAD (Ceskoslovenska Statni Automobilni Doprava, Czechoslovak State Vehicle Transportation) hauled 30 percent more freight than in 1952. Autobuses hauled more passengers in 1953 than in 1952, and 244 new autobus lines were put in operation.

Water transport, both passenger and freight, increased 6 percent. Air freight transport increased 81 percent. Special activities, such as dusting plants with synthetic fertilizers and insecticides [by air] were almost twice those of 1952. Passenger transport was 16 percent greater than in 1952.

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The communications plan was fulfilled 102 percent. Installation of telephones in villages was accomplished 4 months ahead of time; local telephone circuits were made automatic, and intercity cables were installed. Telephone installations were made in MTS, JZDs, and state farms. The Ministry of Communications began transmitting programs by wired radio in 1953 and also put in operation the first television station in Czechoslovakia.

VI. INVESTMENTS

Investments in the national economy in 1953 were on the same level as 1952 but the plan for 1953 was not fulfilled.

Building activity in the metallurgy, engineering, and chemical industries was accelerated in 1953 and great advancement was made in the construction of dams, hydroelectric power plants, and large mines.

Greater capacity was achieved in the metallurgy and engineering industry by installation of 2 [Siemens] Martin furnaces, 4 electric furnaces, 5 steel foundries, one iron foundry, 3 gray castings foundries, 3 nuts and bolts plants, one rolling mill, a new aluminum plant, one annealing plant, and 4 large steam boilers.

Three steam shovels for digging brown coal, and machinery for mining pyrites were installed in the mines. A great deal of machinery was added to hydroelectric and thermal power plants.

New installations were made in the chemical industry for production of motor fuels, soda lye, hydrochloric acid, and for the production and milling of superphosphate. The production capacity for synthetic textiles was expanded.

The production of construction materials was greatly expanded in 1953.

New producing plants include a gypsum mine, a large cement plant, a lime kiln, a firebrick plant, equipment for the production of glazed tile, and a rotating drier for bentonite. The production capacity of flax-retting plants, the production of plate and industrial glass, and paper production were also expanded. New dairy processing and freezing plants and one new sugar refinery were put in production.

The assembly construction organizations of the Ministry of Construction fulfilled their annual plan by 102.5 percent, 14 percent over 1952. New construction included factories, warehouses, water and sewer networks, highways and communications systems, tunnels, electric railways, kindergartens, youth hostels, enterprise kitchens, installations for both preventive and outpatient care, and baby nurseries.

New equipment received by the construction organizations in 1953 resulted in tripling the number of dumpers, and increasing the number of scrapers 15 percent and bulldozers 27 percent.

VII. DEVELOPMENT OF COMMERCE

Exceptional successes in socialist development occurred in June 1953 with the currency reform, abandonment of ration cards, and establishment of the free market. The October 1953 reduction of consumer goods prices on factory-made products and food products was followed by an additional reduction in prices

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of some items in December. The supply of consumer goods greatly improved, especially after the government pronouncement of 15 September. Both state and cooperative trade used more locally produced goods.

New varieties of the following goods were placed on the market in 1953: bakery products, meat and fish products, butter, vegetable fats, cheeses, tea, frozen fruit and vegetables, confectionery, chocolates, and southern fruit in winter. Industrial products included new varieties of tobacco, women's summer dresses, footwear, television sets, radio-phonographs, long-playing records, cameras, electric washing machines, portable electric sewing machines, and others.

Although the retail trade plan was not fulfilled, sales in state and cooperative sales rooms and in all communal eating places had higher sales for the following items, compared with 1952: meat, 9 percent; meat products, 3 percent; canned meat, 11 percent; lard, 16 percent; synthetic fats, 13 percent; rice, 19 percent; children's ready-to-wear, 32 percent; bicycles, 27 percent; lime and cement, 39 percent; bricks and roofing tile, 81 percent; while domestic washer sales increased 4 times.

In 1953, 432 new sales outlets were established in cooperatives, and had an effect on wider distribution of consumer goods. The quality and variety of food in communal food enterprises have improved since the government decree of September 1953. Both service and the appearance of eating places have improved.

The importation of bread grains from the USSR was a major factor in providing sufficient food for the workers. Compared with 1952, the following imports were increased as indicated: butter, 15 percent; meat, 73 percent; lard, 145 percent; fish and fish products, 35 percent; southern fruit, 44 percent; rice, 73 percent; tea, 24 percent; poultry, 68 percent; game, 11 percent; legumes, 4 times. Seeds, grain feeds, and agricultural combines were also imported.

VIII. INCREASED EMPLOYMENT AND WORK PRODUCTIVITY

Compared with 1952, 180,000 more workers were permanently employed. The number of employed women increased 7 percent. Women make up 35 percent of the number of persons permanently employed. The specialized mining and railroad educational centers of the state labor reserve graduated 60,000 young, qualified workers who entered into industry, construction, agriculture, transportation, and local economy.

Some 155,000 workers increased their specialist qualifications through group and individual study. Worker productivity rose 7 percent over 1952. Absenteeism was reduced significantly but labor fluctuation remained very high.

IX. COMMUNAL AND HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

Thirty thousand new housing units, with an area of 1.1 million square meters, were built. Self-aid resulted in the construction of 4,758 more family homes.

In 1953, 259 kilometers of water lines were constructed. Eighteen additional villages were provided running water, so that 2,045 towns now have running water. The sewer lines were expanded so that 874 towns now have underground sewer systems.

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City passenger [transportation] lines were expanded in many places and trolley-bus service introduced in others. In comparison with 1952, the number of trolley buses on hand was increased 40 percent and their services network 9 percent.

X. CULTURE AND HEALTH

Changes in the educational system resulted in the establishment of 2,715 eight-year middle schools with 1,095,000 pupils and 304 eleven-year middle schools with 234,000 pupils. Where the organization of middle schools was not feasible, 9,123 national (elementary) schools with 505,000 pupils were established.

The 655 technical schools were attended by 124,000 students or 17 percent more than in the previous school year. There were also 13,500 workers attending evening courses and 2,500 pursuing nonresident study.

Of the 39 colleges, 23 have a total of 90 faculties and the additional 16 are colleges which are not divided into faculties. Including students from abroad, there are over 47,000 regular students, 11 percent over 1952. New departments have been added to the colleges. The colleges graduated 7,100 professional people, including over 3,000 technical specialists. State aid (stipends) was granted to 27,000 students. The colleges housed over 20,000 students.

There are 175 scientific research institutes and 207 experimental stations with 1,296 students.

During 1953, 4,753 books were published. The number of copies printed amounted to 51.5 million, in the following categories: Marxism-Leninism, 9 percent; social-political and enlightenment literature, 15 percent; artistic, 18 percent; children's 10 percent; technical-professional and other, 48 percent. At the end of the year 2,733 newspapers and periodicals were being published, of which 13 were dailies with an average daily circulation of 1,740,000 copies.

Five million phonograph records were manufactured, of which 400,000 were long-playing records. Over 22,000 performances, including 600 premieres, were presented in the 61 regular theaters. Ten million spectators attended the theater performances.

There are 3,224 motion-picture theaters which are open throughout the year, 235 of which are traveling shows. There were 937,000 motion-picture theater performances which were attended by 140 million people. In addition to the regular motion-picture theaters, 6,356 motion-picture projectors were used.

The motion-picture industry made 24 full-length pictures, nine of which were in color, and also made 481 short films. The number of radio permits rose to 2.7 million.

The number of hospital beds increased by 2,636. In okreses which previously had no institutional maternity care, 16 new lying-in establishments were built, with a total of 172 beds; 6 new infants' institutes with 411 beds were also established and 89 beds were added to those existing previously. Better care of mother and child has lowered infant mortality 20 percent under 1952. By the end of 1953, there were 1,135 creches with a capacity of more than 33,000 infants; 190 of the creches were located in enterprises. There were also 6,497 kindergartens with 219,000 children enrolled.

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By the end of 1953, there were 628 dispensaries and 1,001 doctors' offices in factories and enterprises. Some larger enterprises have complete specialized-care departments which are serviced by doctor specialists. Because it has proven very successful, 931 enterprises also dispense medicines.

Cures at spas were given to 185,500 workers in 1953. Various recreation activities of ROH (Revolucni Odborove Hnutí, Revolutionary Trade Union) were enjoyed by more than 285,000 workers and 11,000 pupils of state educational centers.

Preventive care consisted of the establishment of hygienic and antiepidemic stations in all okreses and the appointment of okres and kraj doctors. Such care was so effective that deaths from infectious diseases decreased 22.5 percent under 1952 and tuberculosis deaths decreased 7 percent.

The pharmaceutical industry began experimental manufacture of streptomycin and other antibiotics. Synthetic chloromycetin is being produced.

X-ray and dental care is offered in country districts by specially equipped mobile units. Health insurance paid out amounted to 1,256,000,000 crowns. Family allotments amounted to 1.9 billion crowns, which is almost one-half billion more than in 1952.

Social security payments increased 1.8 billion crowns. All social security and other income security payments amounted to 6.2 billion crowns, 10 percent higher than in 1952.

Physical education and sports activities were expanded; 2,879 new physical educational units were established and their membership increased by 200,000. The number of persons eligible to wear the PPOV (Pripraveny Pro Obranu Vlasti, Prepared for Defense of the Homeland) badge increased 145,000.

XI. INCREASED NATIONAL INCOME

National income increased 5 percent over 1952; 73 percent was used to satisfy consumer demands (constantly increasing) and the balance was used for further development and expansion of socialist productive capacity.

Following the currency reform, the purchasing power of the public increased 7 billion crowns because of various provisions of the government, such as higher crop purchase prices to farmers, reduction of retail prices, additional payments to all social security recipients as well as to people receiving family allotments, and reduction of taxes to single people as well as married childless people.

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